

Springfield District Report - January 2004

A monthly electronic newsletter from the [Fairfax County Springfield District Office](#)
Elaine McConnell, Supervisor

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Supervisor McConnell Speaks on Taxation Authority Legislation

The Virginia General Assembly will face many issues during its upcoming session, but none will be more important than legislation providing taxation authority for counties equal to that which is currently granted cities and towns. [See letter from Supervisor McConnell.](#)

VDOT Budgets For Snow Removal

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has budgeted \$24 million dollars for snow removal in Northern Virginia for this winter, essentially the average amount spent per year over the past five years. This is, however, significantly less than VDOT spent last year on snow removal in the area -- \$48.6 million dollars. The important fact to note is VDOT will strictly manage the \$24 million dollar budget and this will impact Fairfax County residents. In order to meet the current budget restrictions, VDOT will initiate the following actions.

- Mobilize crews in phases when the weather forecast is uncertain.
- Mobilize by county rather than district wide based on the forecast.
- Be more conservative with the use of contractor equipment.
- Determine the most efficient and appropriate staffing level for each snow event.
- Delay some subdivision plowing until equipment is available from the highway fleet.
- Limit sanding in subdivisions.
- Mobilize the subdivision fleet when more than two inches of snow are predicted. In the past this fleet was mobilized when one inch or more was forecast.

For further information contact Joan Morris at 703-383-2465 or go to VDOT's [Website](#).

Fairfax County Develops Popes Head Creek Watershed Plan

Fairfax County, in coordination with the community, is developing a strategy to solve identified problems and help preserve and protect valuable natural resources to improve the quality of life in the Popes Head Creek watershed. If you would like to learn more about the plan and provide input into the process, please attend the Scoping Forum on Tuesday, January 13, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Clifton Community Hall. For further information and directions, see the Watershed Planning Project [Website](#).

Chesapeake Bay Ordinance Exception Review Committee Created

The Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance took effect in December and limits disturbance of buffer land lying within 100 feet of the 100-year flood plain of every perennial stream in Fairfax County. For more information, see the [Fairfax County Website](#). Land owners who want to build or otherwise disturb land within the buffer or the flood plain must qualify for one of the few allowed exceptions. A land owner refused an exception may seek relief from the

newly established Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance Exception Review Committee. Springfield District is represented on the Committee by Dr. David W. Schnare.

Land Use Committee Meets February 3

The Springfield District Fairfax Center Area Land Use Committee will meet on Tuesday, February 3 at 7:00 p.m. The first item on the agenda is a second review of Fairfax County's Camp 30 proposal. The property that is the subject of this proposal is located at the corner of West Ox Road and Route 29. Committee members will also discuss a proposal by the Wegmans Food Markets Corporation to permit an increase in the sign area. The property that is the subject of this discussion is located north of Lee Highway immediately east of Monument Drive and south of Government Center Parkway. For further information or for reasonable ADA accommodations, please contact [Marlae Schnare](#), Supervisor McConnell's Administrative Aide, at 703-324-2500, TTY 703-455-6691. For general information on the land use committee and for minutes of past meetings, see the Springfield District Land Use [Website](#).

Economic Advisory Committee Meets January 21

The Economic Advisory Committee is meeting Wednesday, January 21 at 8:00 a.m. in room 233 in the Government Center. The speaker is Edward L. Long, Chief Financial Officer, Fairfax County and the topic for discussion is the Fairfax County financial forecast for 2005. For further information or for reasonable ADA accommodations, contact [Norman Byers](#), Supervisor McConnell's Chief-of-Staff, at 703-451-8873, TTY 703-455-6691.

Community Room Available for Non-Profit Groups

The West Springfield Governmental Center offers not-for-profit community groups the opportunity to reserve (for free) meeting space in the Community Room. This room can hold up to 100 people, or can be split into 2 separate rooms with a folding wall holding 50 people each. All organizations wishing to reserve the Community Room must submit an application to Springfield District Supervisor Elaine McConnell's office. For further information see the Community Room [Website](#), or call [Dianne Peikin](#), Supervisor McConnell's Administrative Aide, at 703-451-8873, TTY 703-455-6691.

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